

**REMARKS**

By this Amendment, claims 1, 5 and 7 are amended and claims 2-4 are cancelled.

Claims 1 and 5-7 are pending in this application.

Entry of this Amendment is proper because it simplifies issues for appeal, cancels claims without presenting any new claims, and amends the claims to be allowable.

Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that prior claim 4 is allowable.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 3,940,982 to Hironaka and claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hironaka in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,989,884 to Goodman.

By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended to include the features of prior claims 2-4. As prior claim 4 was deemed allowable by the Office Action, the claims are allowable. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1 and 5-7 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Jonathan H. Backenstose  
Registration No. 47,399

JAO:JHB/tbm

Date: August 17, 2006

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--